

**SIXTH ANNUAL
IOWA
SPECIAL EDUCATION
LAW CONFERENCE**

**OCTOBER 7-8, 2002
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHEMAN CENTER
AMES, IOWA**



Sponsored by
The Iowa Department of Education

Presented by
LRP Publications

PURPOSE

Conference attendees will become more informed regarding special education legal issues so they can avoid and resolve conflict and litigation.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Principals, special education administrators, department of education staff, administrative law judges, board members (AEA and LEA), mediators, parent advocacy organizations or agencies, insurance claim representatives, higher education faculty, teachers, AEA support personnel, superintendents, attorneys.

LRP PUBLICATIONS

LRP Publications is a broad-based legal publisher with loose-leaf publications, books, videos, software and newsletters in various product areas. Special Ed Connection represents the newest means by which LRP Publications continues to provide up-to-date materials delivered almost instantaneously to its clients using the capabilities of the electronic world.

Iowa Special Education Law Conference

Agenda

Monday, October 7

8:30am Registration, Coffee & Rolls

9:00 Welcome, *Lana Michelson, Bureau Chief, Iowa Department of Education*

9:15 **Looking into the Crystal Ball: Emerging Legal Issues in Special Education**

Jim Walsh, Esq., Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulz & Aldridge, PC, Austin, TX

The 1997 Reauthorization of the IDEA brought major changes to the field of special education law. What legal changes will the new Reauthorization bring? A popular and humorous speaker, Mr. Walsh will offer his views on the evolution of the field of special education law and his predictions for the “hottest” legal issues of the future.

10:45 Break

11:00 **Disability Harassment and Retaliation Actions**

Kathleen Sullivan, Esq., The Weatherly Law Firm, Atlanta, GA

This session will address case law involving suits for disability harassment brought under state and federal law, including IDEA and Section 504. These cases include claims that the school system failed to identify and respond to student harassment as well as claims of direct harassment and/or retaliation by district personnel. Discussion will include the impact of these claims on due process hearings as well as potential liability of districts and individual employees. Proactive strategies for ferreting out disability harassment and responding effectively will also be discussed.

12:15 **Luncheon Address: All Dressed Up, and Now, With Someplace To Go**

Richard Pimentel, Senior Partner, Milt Wright & Associates, Chatsworth, CA

For years education and rehabilitation has prepared students with disabilities to venture out into a world that was not often ready for them. In the last few years great strides have been made by both society and employers in attitudes towards persons with disabilities. As a result, your role in preparing these students has become even more significant. Richard Pimentel takes an insightful and often humorous look at the way our culture now relates to young persons with disabilities, the trials of getting there and the challenges of the future.

1:45 **Educational Methodologies (From a Parent's Perspective)**

Deborah Mattison, Esq., Gordon, Silberman, Wiggins and Childs, PC, Birmingham, AL

What factors lead to parental demands for a particular educational methodology? Is it appropriate for an IEP to specify a methodology? What weaknesses in the school district's IEP can lead to a successful claim for methodologies? Ms. Mattison explores this controversial issue and provides her insight into the causes, strategies, and relief sought by parents.

3:00 Break

3:15 **Discipline Panel**

Iowa Administrative Law Judges

Discipline of students with disabilities remains a controversial topic both nationally and in Iowa. This session will highlight discipline issues and recent due process hearings and decisions from Iowa. ALJ Carl Smith will present issues regarding the assessment of behavior including functional behavioral assessments and manifestation determinations. ALJ Susan Etscheidt will discuss the essential components of a behavioral intervention plan (BIP), ALJ Carla Peterson will review guidelines for placement in Interim Alternative Educational Settings, and ALJ Larry Bartlett will identify parameters for police involvement in disciplinary actions concerning students with disabilities.

4:30 pm Adjourn

Tuesday, October 8

8:30am Registration, Coffee & Rolls

9:00 **FERPA, IDEA & Confidentiality (i.e., Can I Say That?)**

Jose Martin, Esq., Richards, Lindsay & Martin, LLP, Austin, TX

Ever hear the saying, "Loose lips sink ships?" Your teachers and staff could be "sinking your ship" without even knowing it! With the new US Supreme Court's review of *Falvo v. Owasso Pub. Schools*, confidentiality is one of the year's "hottest" legal topics. Mr. Martín reviews the rights of parents to prevent unauthorized disclosure of their child's education record, and the schools' responsibilities to keep it private.

10:15 Break

10:30 **The Year in Review: What Are the Courts Saying About Special Education?**

Melinda Baird, Esq., The Law Office of Melinda Baird, Knoxville, TN

Every year the federal courts render new interpretations of the IDEA and Section 504/ADA that directly affect local public school districts and parents of children with disabilities. Join Ms. Baird for her review of the most significant and interesting cases of the past year, and hear her predictions for the special education legal issues to watch for in the future.

12:00pm Adjourn

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION CREDIT

We have applied for Continuing Legal Education Credit and the number of hours approved will be available at the conference.

LOCATION

The conference is being held at the ISU Scheman Center, Ames, Iowa. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Baymont Inn, US 30 & Elwood Drive, for the nights of October 6-7, 2002. Individuals are responsible for making their own reservations by calling 515/296-2500. Be sure to indicate that you are attending the Special Education Law Conference to receive the special rate of \$65 for a single or double room. Rooms will be held **until September 6** or until the block is filled.

REGISTRATION

Individuals may attend both days of the conference, OR Monday only OR Tuesday only. Lunch is included for the first day, breaks for both days (including a continental breakfast each morning), plus LRP materials. You can register using the attached registration form, or E-mail barnesmanagement@compuserve.com and request an electronic invitation to register on-line.

REFUNDS

All but \$15 of the fee is refundable for cancellations received **by September 23, 2002**. Registration is transferable to another person.

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

If you have questions regarding the conference or your registration, please contact **Barnes Management**, an independent contractor helping coordinate the conference, at 319/338-2036 or FAX: 319/337-8836, e-mail: barnesmanagement@compuserve.com. If you require special accommodations to participate in this program, please contact **Barnes Management** at least two weeks prior to the program.

REGISTRATION FORM
SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 7-8, 2002

Name _____

Badge Name _____

Title _____

School/Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-Mail _____

☐ Vegetarian meal requested

REGISTRATION:

☐ 2 Days \$100 (Oct. 7-8)

☐ 1 Day \$80 (Oct. 7 only)

☐ 1 Day \$40 (Oct. 8 only)

_____ TOTAL Enclosed

Make checks payable to ***Iowa Department of Education*** and return to:

Barnes Management

5096 Sand Road SE

Iowa City, IA 52240-8217

319/338-2036; FAX 319/337-8836

Registration deadline is September 23, 2002

Register on-line by E-mailing barnesmanagement@compuserve.com and requesting an electronic invitation.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Received: _____ Entered: _____ Check # _____

It is the policy of the State of Iowa not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability.